

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (New): A method for registering and authenticating a wireless communication device with a wireless ad-hoc network, the method comprising:

- wirelessly transmitting a registration request message from a requesting device to a node authorized to register the requesting device to the network;
- monitoring an environment of the requesting device to detect other nodes;
- sending out voting messages to the detected nodes to ensure that only the requesting device can register at nodes in the environment for a preprogrammed time interval;
- authenticating the requesting device towards a user by playing an audio-visual signal,
- authenticating the authorized node towards the user by playing an audio-visual signal;
- sanctioning registration by the user in a case the requesting device and the authorized node playing the audio-visual signal are ones the user intended to use; and
- wirelessly transmitting a registration message in a positive case from the authorized node to the requesting device.

Claim 11 (New): A method according to claim 10, further comprising:

- in a case the wireless communication device and/or the wireless node registers lack of an acceptance or rejection message after a preprogrammed time interval has expired, terminating the authentication and registration process.

Claim 12 (New): A method according to claim 10, wherein:

the audio-visual signals by the wireless communication device and by the authorized wireless node have a common structure out of a large number of possible structures so the user can make a sanctioning decision dependent on whether both signals have the same structure, and

the description of the audio-visual signal to be signaled by the requesting device is wirelessly sent by the authorized node in an encrypted way, so only the requesting device can decrypt the description.

Claim 13 (New): A method according to claim 10, further comprising:

identifying registered devices of a specific wireless multi-hop ad-hoc network by decrypting and recognizing a network-identifying signal out of a range of different possible signals that is specific for the network generated by a wireless node connected to the network.

Claim 14 (New): A method according to claim 13, wherein

the network-identifying signal is an audio signal.

Claim 15 (New): A method according to claim 13, wherein

the network-identifying signal is a visual signal.

Claim 16 (New): A method according to claim 13, wherein

the network-identifying signal is an audio-visual signal.

Claim 17 (New): A method according to claim 10, wherein

the registration request message contains a list containing device capabilities of the wireless communication device to be registered.

Claim 18 (New): A wireless communication device to be registered to a wireless multi-hop ad-hoc network, comprising:

user interaction and control means for controlling a registration and authentication process;

processing means for determining a nearest wireless node in an environment of a wireless communication device being authorized to register the device to the network by evaluating wirelessly received response messages from the nodes,

decryption means for decrypting information wirelessly received from, audio-visually signaled, and encrypted by the authorized wireless node by a secret key that is known to both the wireless communication device and the authorized wireless node; and

signaling means for audio-visually signaling the information to authenticate an identity of the wireless communication device.